

DMA

Newsletter

[DMA Website is www.DarienDMA.org](http://www.DarienDMA.org)

Darien Men's Association

November - December 2020

President's Message

We are half way through the Fall season and I am pleased to report that DMA is doing just fine. The pandemic is still with us and looks like we will be virtual for the foreseeable future. In fact, cases, deaths and hospitalizations are all rising here in Connecticut.

I'd like to use this Newsletter to highlight the exceptional amount of work people put in to make this a great organization.

Bryan Hooper has recruited an outstanding slate of speakers. I enjoy the diversity of topics – government, environment, history...all good. A special thanks to **Jim Cameron, Mike Critelli, Mark Nunan, and Bert von Stuelpnagel** for stepping up to share their interests and expertise. Finally, Bryan takes careful notes and summarizes each talk for This Week at DMA. His notes are retained on the website.

Tom Igoe writes This Week at DMA to summarize upcoming activities in a weekly email. There is a lot going on and having it all in one place assures members they won't miss anything.

Charles Salmans produces the Newsletter and Directory. The Directory was mailed to all members this year.



Harry Bergen not only opens the meeting with a song but welcomes new members into DMA.

The Clubs and Activities are very healthy with interesting topics and good attendance. **Harris Hester** and **Tom Igoe** keep us reading an interesting book selection. **Tom Lom** has restarted bowling. **Tony**

Kwedar organizes two tables of bridge each week. **Mike Heitz** keeps us engaged with the community. **Bob Baker's** Current Affairs group always has a challenging discussion. **Dave McCollum** and **Bob Plunkett** have led several hikes. **Jim Phillips** leads the Investment Discussion Group where we can gain insight from the many financial pros in DMA. **Doug Campbell** brings outside speakers into Money Matters. **Jan Selkowitz** has been an enthusiastic champion of Pickleball.

And a special thanks to **Joe Spain** and **David Mace** for their creativity to hold Wanderings during the pandemic. The Woodlawn and Danbury Raid wanderings were great. We all appreciate the amount of planning and preparation that go into these events – finding a site, retaining a guide, and planning the route.

There are others - thank you all – your creativity and effort are appreciated. DMA wouldn't be the organization it is without you.

Finally, a request. Take a look at the participants on next week's call, or, rather, see who is not on the call. Make a note to reach out to them and urge

them to attend. Similarly, feel free to invite a friend or neighbor to join a meeting – hopefully they'll like what they see and join DMA.

DMA is a gem, let's keep it that way.

Gary Banks
President

Speakers

Wednesday, November 4, 2020



David Pogue will talk about the subject covered in his upcoming book, "How to Prepare for Climate Change". He notes that "the number of people who believe that the climate is not changing are dwindling, and it's currently about 12% of Americans. Twice that number believe that aliens walk among us. There may still be people who believe that the changing climate is not human-caused, or maybe you believe it *is* human-caused, or that it's a natural cycle—but either way, you still need to prepare!"

David is a technologist, columnist, entertainer and television reporter. From 2000 to 2013, he was the New York Times weekly

technology columnist. He graduated summa cum laude from Yale in 1985 with distinction in music, and he spent ten years conducting and arranging Broadway musicals in New York. He has won a Loeb Award for journalism, and an honorary doctorate in music. He has been profiled on "48 Hours" and "60 Minutes," and is regularly featured on "CBS Sunday Morning."

Arranged by Bryan Hooper

Wednesday, November 11, 2020



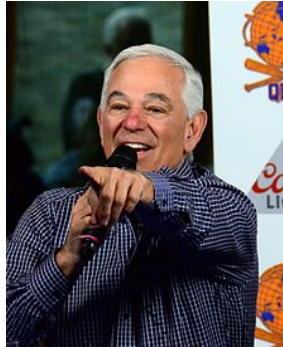
Dr. C. Griffith Mann returns to the DMA to discuss the history of the medieval art collection and the role played by J.P. Morgan in its development. Dr. Mann was appointed The Metropolitan Museum of Art's Michel David-Weill Curator in Charge of the Department of Medieval Art and the Met Cloisters in September 2013. Dr. Mann received his B.A. in art history and history from Williams College, and his Ph.D. in medieval art from The Johns Hopkins University. A specialist in the arts of late medieval Italy, he has published on civic patronage, painting, and devotion in Tuscany. As a curator, Dr. Mann has worked on exhibitions on the

medieval cult of relics, the art and archaeology of medieval Novgorod, and French manuscript illumination of the 13th century. He formerly served as the Chief Curator and Deputy Director at The Cleveland Museum of Art, where he helped to lead the museum's reinstallation, acquisition, and exhibition programs, and as medieval curator

and Director of the Curatorial Division at The Walters Art Museum, where he worked on exhibitions and the permanent collection.

Arranged by Bryan Hooper

Wednesday, November 18, 2020



Robert John Valentine, “Bobby V”, will talk about his life in sports as a former American professional baseball player and manager, a sports commentator on ESPN, and a sports bar owner among other career roles. Valentine played for four different teams in Major League Baseball. He then managed the Texas Rangers (1985–1992), the New York Mets (1996–2002), and the Boston Red Sox (2012) of MLB, as well as the Chiba Lotte Marines of Nippon Professional Baseball (1995, 2004–2009). Valentine has also served as the Director of Public Safety & Health for the city of Stamford, and an analyst for ESPN Sunday Night Baseball. Since 1980, he has owned and operated Bobby V’s Restaurant & Sports Bar, a sports bar that is located in his hometown of Stamford. He has been the athletic director at Sacred Heart University since July 2013. Sacred Heart opened a \$21.8-million fitness facility called the Bobby Valentine Health and Recreation Center last year. Valentine was named the Eastern College Athletic Conference administrator of the year in 2018, and has received numerous awards both for his athletic successes and philanthropy.

Arranged by Bryan Hooper

Wednesday, December 2, 2020



Patty Gallant-Charette, a 69-year-old woman from Maine has swum vast distances across the world’s oceans, in particular the waters of “**Oceans Seven**,” the most treacherous and turbulent ocean channels in the world. Oceans Seven was devised in 2008 as the swimming equivalent of the Seven Summits mountaineering challenge with far fewer people having accomplished it. It includes the North Channel, the Cook Strait between North and South Islands, New Zealand, the Moloka’i Channel, the English Channel, the Catalina Channel, the Tsugaru Strait and the Straits of Gibraltar. She has managed to complete all of these save for the Cook Strait, which she has attempted twice, almost made it the last time, and is in line to try it again in the next few years. Aside from these waters, she has swum across many lakes of the world including Lake Tahoe, Loch Ness, Lake Ontario and Lake Windermere. Patty’s swimming feats have received world-wide attention, and last November, she was inducted into the International Marathon Swimming Hall of Fame. She holds six Guinness World Records.

Arranged by Tom Igoe

Wednesday, December 9, 2020



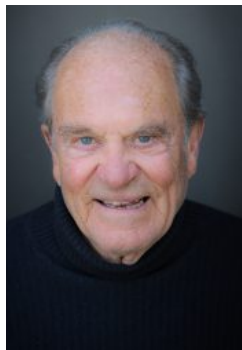
Ed Hynes, CFA, will talk about the origins of The Star-Spangled Banner. Ed first became interested in the Revolutionary War as a child when he learned his neighbor's house was partially burned by the British during the Danbury Raid in 1777. He and his wife are fascinated by history and have visited many important battlefields both here and abroad.

Ed has spoken to the DMA twice before, first in 2013 on the Battle of Ridgefield, and the second time in October 2019, about the War on Long Island Sound.

Ed was born and raised in Wilton. He attended Wilton High School where he played both football and lacrosse. In 1977 he graduated from The George Washington University in Washington D.C. with a B.A. in Political Science. He subsequently spent most of his career in financial services. As an equity analyst, institutional salesperson and trader he worked with some of the premier investment banking firms in New York, Tokyo, London, Chicago and San Francisco. In 2001 Ed became a Chartered Financial Analyst (CFA) and is currently a Financial Advisor with Merrill Lynch in Westport, CT. He lives in Norwalk.

Arranged by Gary Banks

Wednesday, December 16, 2020



Flemming Heilmann, a DMA member and author, will discuss his latest book, *The Unacceptable Face*, in which he relates his encounters with apartheid, socialism and iterations of capitalism on three continents during a career challenged by corporate and national politics.

Flemming was born 1936 in Malaya of Danish parents. His school education spanned Australia, Denmark – where he has deep cultural roots – and formative years in the United Kingdom before he graduated from Cambridge with a law degree. He spent time in British colonial Malaya during the communist uprising before its independence, in Swaziland under British rule, and in South Africa while apartheid laws were being put into place. During the postwar recovery, Flemming developed an appreciation of America's role in the rehabilitation of war-torn Europe and an understanding of the mighty US economic engine driving economic, technological and social progress in the world. A 40-year executive career in industry took him back to South Africa for 17 years and on to the USA in the mid-1970s with stints in Europe and Canada. Flemming lives with his wife Judy in Rowayton, has four sons, a daughter, and nine grandsons. He last spoke to us in early 2019, when he discussed his book, *Odyssey Uncharted*, a memoir of his World War II childhood and subsequent worldwide education.

Arranged by Bryan Hooper

In Memoriam



Michael Pooler, a DMA member for 18 years who photographed our new members and recorded our activities, passed away on July 1 at age 84. Michael attended the Kent School in Kent, Connecticut (Class of 1954) and Babson College in Wellesley Hills, Mass. (Class of 1957). He also served in the United States Army Reserves from 1954 to 1962, attaining the rank of staff sergeant.

From a young age, Michael would never be far from the water. As a student at the Kent School, he served as coxswain for a crew in the Henley Royal Regatta on the River Thames in 1953. Upon moving to Rowayton in 1960, Michael crewed various amateur fishing vessels before taking the helm of White Bear, which he faithfully captained for 43 years. Michael was a devoted member of the United Church of Rowayton where he sang in the choir for 58 years. A lifelong choirboy, Michael also sang for Christ Church in Bronxville, New York and the Choir and Glee Club at the Kent School. Michael worked for ITT Rayonier Inc. for 42 years, before he "retired" in 1990 and founded MAP International Inc., where he served as president until his death. Michael left behind his wife of 42 years, Petrea, eight children, and fifteen grandchildren.

New Members



David (Dave) Cator was born in Portland, Oregon on December 10th, 1952. At a very young age his family moved to the San Francisco Bay area, living in Menlo Park, Calif., and later to a small town, Portola Valley. He graduated from Woodside High School in 1971 and from the University of California at Berkeley in 1975. Dave's first job was working for a New York-based publisher and later a regional newspaper before being hired by Sunset magazine in 1979. Dave worked as an executive in the magazine publishing industry for the next 40 years, with magazines such as *Smithsonian* and *Inc*, including 23 years at Time Inc.

Upon his retirement from publishing in January, 2020, Dave worked to earn his certification as a Recovery Coach, helping those who are on their recovery journey. Dave has three daughters and has lived with his wife Susan in Darien for the last 28 years. Dave loves his family time, vacations, exercise, golf and his Labradors. He is a member of the Wee Burn Country Club.

Sponsored by Harry Bergen



Jim Errington was born in 1955 on Tyneside in the northeast of England and educated at the Jarrow Grammar School. He received a degree from the London School of Economics.

Jim applied to work as an economist at British Petroleum but instead was assigned to work as an oil trader, which was his job for the next 40 years. Initially he was based in London, selling liquified petroleum gases from the North Sea oilfields. Later he speculatively traded Mediterranean and Middle Eastern gasoline jet and fuel oil cargoes from BP's Rome and Istanbul offices.

Jim married his high school sweetheart Jill and they made a home in the northern suburbs of London. In the mid 1980s he was posted to Tokyo while his wife worked for the Tokyo Electric Power Company and where they had a son, Richard. Jim was transferred to the U.S. in 1987 and he and his wife have lived in Darien ever since. They added a daughter, Jennifer, to their family the following year. He joined Goldman Sachs in 1998 to develop their New York physical oil trading business and in 2009 joined Blenheim Capital, a commodity hedge fund from which he retired in 2017. Jim and his wife have split their time between homes in Darien and Florida and have travelled often to the UK, where they renovated an Edinburgh town house into several holiday apartments now managed by their daughter. Working with Darien neighbors Jim arranged for a section of overhead utilities along Pear Tree Point Road to be buried. Jim now has time to catch up with a backlog of history books, collect contemporary Japanese prints, indulge a passion for trains, and sail from the Darien Boat Club.

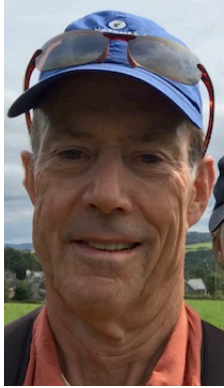
Sponsored by: Gary Banks



John Griswold grew up in Greenwich, Conn. He attended Greenwich Country Day School and Pomfret School, graduating in 1963. He earned a B.A. in English Literature at Yale University in 1967 and played varsity soccer, intramural hockey and was fullback on the Yale Rugby Club's first fifteen. Following graduation from Yale he taught English and Reading at Middlesex Junior High School in Darien and coached the soccer team. In 1971 he joined an advertising agency in Greenwich, and later moved to New York where he worked at Ogilvy and Mather. In 1985 he changed careers, joining a small financial advisory

partnership in Stamford organizing and marketing a hedge fund of funds. In 1992 he joined Commonfund as head of Client Services, Research and Publications. He founded Commonfund Institute in 1999, serving as its Executive Director developing investor research studies and running nonprofit institutional investor education at the Endowment Institute at the Yale School of Management. John retired in 2016 but continues to consult with higher ed and foundation boards and investment committees. John lives with his wife Chichi in Stamford and belongs to the Yale Club of New York and the Black Hall Club in Old Lyme, where he has a second home. He enjoys travel, boating, golf, bicycling and paddle boarding.

Sponsored by Fred Conze



Peter “Pete” Nance was born in Bryn Mawr, Penn., outside Philadelphia, in 1944. He attended the Haverford School and gained two championship titles in wrestling in the private school league. He graduated from The College of William and Mary in 1966. Pete served for three years in the Army Quartermaster Corp with a tour in Vietnam in 1968. He joined General Reinsurance Corp. in 1969 in New York City, concluding his career in London as Managing Director in 2006. Pete has served on the boards of A Better Chance in Darien, Kids in Crisis in Stamford, and has been active in Friends and Family Supporting Cystic Fibrosis Care. He has also been very active at his alma mater, William and Mary, serving on the Foundation Board and as President of its Alumni Association. In 2019 he was honored by the College with its highest alumni award – The Medallion Award.

Pete and his wife, Judy have been married for 53 years and while having the usual corporate experience of living in many places, have been in Darien and Rowayton for nearly 40 years. Peter and Judy lost a beautiful daughter, Sara Elizabeth, who at age 26 succumbed to a long battle with Cystic Fibrosis. She packed lots into those years graduating from Vanderbilt Magna Cum Laude!

Pete’s interests include travel, golf, bridge, painting, museums, books, William and Mary sports, and good wine. He is a member of Weeburn Country Club and the Loxahatchee Club in Jupiter, Fla. He and his wife reside in Darien and Jupiter, Fla.

Sponsored by Bob McGroarty



Jeff Neubert was born in Dixon, Ill., in 1942. He moved from Dixon to Indianapolis to Rochester and finally to Connecticut in 1959. He graduated from the University of Notre Dame in 1964 with a BBA degree and the following year earned an MBA from Babson College. Jeff began his business career as a marketing executive with General Foods in 1965. He moved to Citigroup in 1974 where he held various positions in retail banking, credit cards, mortgage banking, and strategic planning. He joined Bank One/JP Morgan Chase as Executive Vice President and concluded his career as CEO of The Clearing House from 2000

until 2010. Jeff and his wife, Tink, moved to Darien in 1969 and have three children and seven grandchildren. They are members of Wee Burn. Jeff enjoys golf, bridge, reading, exercise and, most of all, his family.

Sponsored by Harry Bergen



Rodger F. Smith was born and raised in Wauwatosa, Wisconsin, in 1941. He is a graduate of the University of Wisconsin with a B.S. in Chemical Engineering and an MBA in finance. He has been Chair of the Dean's Advisory Board of the Wisconsin School of Business. He was also Chair of the Trust Advisory Committee of Tau Beta Pi (the engineering honorary fraternity) for 34 years. He has also led the Investment Committee for the 401(k) plan for Greenwich Associates and recently joined the Investment Committee of his fraternity foundation.

After 10 years working for the CFO at Allis Chalmers in Milwaukee, Rodger moved with his first wife (deceased in 1999) and three sons to Darien in 1976. He joined Charley Ellis to help found and grow Greenwich Associates, a research and consulting business, where he worked with asset management firms, including PIMCO. He also founded Greenwich Associates' business in Canada and London. Rodger and his second wife Masha have lived in Tokeneke since 1986, where he is currently President of the Tokeneke Tax District. His three sons live in Darien, Wilton, and New York City. He is a member of Wee Burn Country Club, The Yale Club of New York City, and the Tradition Golf Club in Palm Springs. Rodger is an avid golfer and is working on a book about his family going back to the 1800s. His interests include investing, public affairs, travel, Green Bay Packers, and the Wisconsin Badgers.
Sponsored by Jim Phillips



Ken Von Kohorn was born in New York City in 1946 and grew up in Scarsdale, N.Y. and Greenwich. He attended Choate School, class of '64 and Yale, class of '68, where he majored in Engineering. Ken joined the Yale Alley Cats and in his junior year was their Business Manager, presaging his career in business. Next was an MBA from Stanford's Graduate School of Business in 1972. His first job was with the investment firm Bailard, Biehl & Kaiser, in Meno Park, California.

In 1976, Ken moved to Westport to start his own investment firm, which he continues to manage. Ken has four children from a previous marriage. One son lives in Connecticut, another in Brooklyn, and a third recently moved to Berlin. Ken's daughter and her family live in Portland, Oregon, where they are raising two children. Ken and his wife Dana married in 2015 and live in the Highmeadow Association in Norwalk. They are members of Tokeneke Club and Noroton Presbyterian Church. Ken is an avid tennis player and a Yankee fan, enjoys reading, and expects to become hooked on pickleball in the near future.
Sponsored by Jan Selkowitz

Activities

Money Matters



Doug Campbell reports that Money Matters had a Zoom session on Tuesday, September 15 in which Felicia Rubenstein, Founder and Chief Collaborator, spoke about Hayvn www.hayvn.com - a women's co-working space in Darien that offers extensive programming and pitch events for women entrepreneurs. They have 140 members, sponsored 28 interns during the spring, and run pitch contests and offer several programs each week for business owners.

On October 20, the group heard from Steve Semaya of the Connecticut Small Business Development Center (CTSBDC) <https://ctsfdc.com> who shared stories about the work his group is doing to help Connecticut's small businesses start, grow, and survive, a particular challenge (and sometimes an opportunity) as a result of Covid.

On November 17 the group will hear from Susan Cator, executive director of Darien Chamber Shop Local www.darientchamber.com, who will provide an update on Darien business. On December 15, Wes Bemus, executive director of Stamford Next, will discuss the New Data Science Initiative www.stamfordnext.org.

Bowling



Tom Lom and Gehr Brown report that the Bowling Group has resumed at the Nutmeg Lanes in Fairfield on its regular Tuesday schedule. One member, George Gilliam, whose average is 145, has been on a hot streak with two recent

games over 200 including 8 strikes for 211 on October 27. Nutmeg Lanes has taken a number of measures to ensure proper social distancing. Adjacent bowling lanes are closed off and masks are required in all areas except when actually bowling. Members who plan to join the sessions are encouraged to email Tom at tomlom1@aol.com so that the number of participants can be anticipated and the Group can ensure safe play.

Hiking



After a hiatus in hiking over the summer, **Dave McCollum** and **Bob Plunkett** organized the resumption of hikes in September and October. On September 24, nine members of the DMA completed a three-mile hike in Mianus River Park, a 400-acre forest sandwiched between Greenwich and Stamford. The hike provided an overview of the Mianus River and its tributary streams on a route with rock formations including a cave. Most of the land that is now the park was owned by Robert

Goodbody, a New York financier, who built bridal paths and stone bridges that now serve as park trails.



On October 22, the hiking group led by **Dave** and **Bob** was able to enjoy the autumn foliage in the Leon Levy Preserve in South Salem, New York. The Leon Levy preserve was formerly the Bell property, and was purchased by the Town of Lewisboro in 2005. It is 383 acres of forest and wetland located in the watersheds of both New York City and Stamford. The group saw the ruins of the Black Mansion (1899-1979) and other outbuildings. The scenery at this time of year is spectacular as the Preserve encompasses an

impressive gorge and numerous large rock outcroppings.

Golf



Hole in One! That's what **Andre Guilbert** achieved on the third hole in the DMA golf outing on September 15 at Oak Hills Park in Norwalk. **Peter Carnes** reports that the 22 members of the DMA participated in the last golf outing of the season on September 15. In addition to celebrating Andre's achievement, the group enjoyed glorious weather. In reporting on the earlier golf outing at Sterling farms, the comment was, "What happened at Sterling farms stays at Sterling Farms." It was nice to have an

achievement to talk about.

Pickleball



Jan Selkowitz and **Woody Spurgeon** report that pickleball has been going well this fall for the approximate 12 hard core intermediate/advanced players that can be accommodated on a given morning. Last year by this time players were already indoors at the Mather Center averaging about 20 people or more. Because of Covid we cannot allow participants to hang around at Cherry Lawn so our numbers must be limited. We have been informed by Parks and Recreation that going inside is not an option at least until January but probably for the entire winter. Consequently, it is our intention to play outside as long as possible, well into the winter if conditions permit. For the hearty, only snow, wet courts or strong winds will keep us off the courts. We have offered clinics for beginners or novices but to this point we have had no takers. There are a few good players who have offered to help teach these clinics. Pickleball is fun, great exercise and the fastest growing sport in the country. Please contact Jan at selkowitzfamily@gmail.com if you are interested and hopefully arrangements can be made for additional players. Subject to change, Pickleball will continue to be played on Tuesdays, Thursdays, and Saturdays at 9:45 a.m. at Cherry Lawn as long as weather and Covid safety allow.

Book Discussion Group



Harris Hester reports that On September 9 over Zoom the book group discussed *The Great Influenza, The Epic Story of the Greatest Plague in History* by John Barry. This book provoked a lively discussion given the similarities between our current virus situation and the time period covered in the book. Of course, the time frame of The Great Influenza was a century ago but it was interesting to see the similarities and some of the differences.

On October 14 the group had a virtual discussion of *The British Are Coming* by Rick Atkinson. This book portrayed George Washington as a novice commander who eventually came into his own at the battles for Trenton and Princeton. It was shocking to discover how ill-equipped the American troops were and the lack of professionalism in the officer corps. The British badly miscalculated the support they would get from the colonies. That strained the British supply chain although they did have total dominance of the naval aspects of the war. Someone said, "If Atkinson had written my history books, I would have become a history major". The writing is superb. The book for Nov. 11 is *Caste* by Isabel Wilkerson and for Dec. 9 is *A Long Petal of the Sea* by Isabel Allende.

Happy Wanderers



Joe Spain and **David Mace** report that 12 Happy Wanderers, including two spouses, toured the Woodlawn Cemetery in the Bronx early in October. The group had a wonderful guide named Nestor who worked for the Historical Preservation Commission of New York City before retiring. This 400-acre cemetery, which began at the time of the Civil War, is the resting place for people of all religions and faiths, including many recognizable names such as

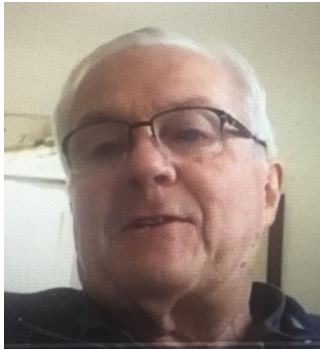
Fiorello La Guardia, Herman Melville, Lionel Hampton, and Robert Moses. The group saw the gravesites of Irving Berlin, Lionel Hampton, Miles Davis and other jazz greats. Some, including Fiorello LaGuardia, have a simple gravestone and others are buried inside an elaborate mausoleum. One of the moving sites was a gravestone with a metal etching of a woman and her infant child. This gravestone memorialized the first wife of Mayor LaGuardia and his infant child, both of whom died of typhoid fever. The stone was erected and paid for by LaGuardia's second wife with the understanding it would be placed in a location remote from where the Mayor and his second wife are buried. The group enjoyed the history and the diversity of this well-known burial site in New York City.



On October 27, **David** and **Joe** arranged a guided tour of battlefields in Westport and Ridgefield during the military incursion of Connecticut by the British known as the Danbury Raid, which occurred in April 1777. Guide for the tour was **Ed Hynes**, who is a Norwalk resident, has lectured on Revolutionary War topics at the DMA, and is our scheduled speaker on December 9.

The wandering began at the site of the British landing at Campo Beach, Westport, and continued to Ridgefield where Patriot forces under Benedict Arnold, still then a hero of the Revolution, engaged the British as they were returning to the coast, having destroyed Patriot supplies in Danbury. Ed provided maps and knowledgeable commentary on the raid. The battles were made real as the group explored the topography which so influenced the disposition of forces, including a fording place that enabled the British to avoid a bridge defended by the Patriots, Compo Hill which dominated Compo Beach, and other features of terrain crucial to the battles.

Current Affairs



Bob Baker reports that the Current Affairs group had well-attended and lively Zoom discussions. On September 17, **David Mace** led a discussion on Income Inequality, including the issue of whether income inequality is good or bad for growth. Not in dispute, in the US the income gap between the wealthy and the poor is growing. Some 40 million children in America suffer from food insecurity. The group debated the need for higher levels of income or wealth taxation for those at the highest income level, along with the place of philanthropy to address wealth disparity issues. On October 15, **John**

Schlactenhaufen led a discussion on Voting by Mail which could be an issue if there is a close race on November 3. The discussion was informed by participation of Denise Merrill, Connecticut Secretary of State and Susan Gray, Darien's Democratic Registrar as well as DMA member **Mike Critelli** who, as former CEO of Pitney Bowes, is knowledgeable about mail handling and who also gave a presentation to DMA members at our regular meeting on September 23. Crucial to voting integrity is a strong "chain of custody" with the ballots, which is strengthened by informed delivery of 1st Class mail through the post office. Ballot harvesting leads to a loss of the audit trail and another challenge is signature verification as young people rarely sign their name!

Bob invites members to suggest topics and volunteer to lead a discussion by sending him an e-mail at rbcjhb2@msn.com.

Investment Discussion Group



Jim Phillips notes that the Investment Discussion Group continues to have active meetings with members sharing their particular area of expertise. The September discussion focused on the transformation of businesses to the digital economy including the impact of 5G. This included discussion on renewables like HASI, NEE, PLUG, BLDP, ENPH and SEDG. **Chip Schroeder** presented PLUG and BLDP to the group.

In the October meeting, **Henry Cavanna** shared a Fidelity report showing that historically the outcome of a presidential election has little impact on market direction.

The group meets on Zoom on the first Monday of each month at 10 a.m. The meetings feature presentations on stocks of potential interest and participants engage in a lively discussion on the outlook for both markets and individual investment opportunities. In advance of scheduled meetings, Jim encourages IDG members to suggest companies to him, and background information can be circulated for pre-discussion reading.

Bridge



Tony Kwedar reports that the DMA Bridge Group has successfully transitioned to playing on-line via a free computerized bridge program, Bridge Base, <https://www.bridgebase.com/> as seen by **Alex Garnett**, left. The group plays 24 hands on Tuesdays at 1 p.m. to about 3 p.m. A YouTube tutorial can be found at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7V1CSXat7no>. Start by creating a free account including your BridgeBase ID. Note there are practice tutorials if it has been a while since you played.

The group welcomes players at all levels, including those who wish to sub from time to time. If you have an interest in online bridge, contact Tony at [littlesirecho@aol.com](mailto:little sirecho@aol.com), including your name, phone number, e-mail and BridgeBase ID.

Mark Your Calendar – Details on DMA Website

Nov. 2 – Investment Discussion Group: Zoom Meeting at 10 a.m.

Nov. 5 – Wandering: Jamaica Bay Wildlife Refuge

Nov. 10 – Volunteer Project: Cleanup of Selleck's Woods

Nov. 11 – Book Club: Zoom Meeting at 2 p.m. *Caste* by Isabel Wilkerson

Nov. 17 – Money Matters: Zoom Meeting at 10 a.m. An Update on Darien Shop Local

Nov. 19 – Hike: Westmoreland Sanctuary, Mount Kisco

Nov. 19 – Current Affairs: Zoom Meeting at 11 a.m. The Election Results led by Harris Hester

Dec. 9 – Book Club: Zoom Meeting at 2 p.m. *A Long Petal of the Sea* by Isabel Allende

Dec. 15 – Money Matters: Zoom Meeting at 10 a.m. The New Data Science Initiative by Wes Bemus, Executive Director, Stamford Next

Check the website, DarienDMA.org, for events including Zoom sessions. Bowling, Hiking, Wanderers, and outdoor pickleball, with social distancing, have resumed. Contact the activity leaders for additional information.

Darien Men's Association Newsletter

Editor and Publisher, *Charles Salmans*. **Copyeditor,** *Tom Igoe*. **New member bios,** *Charles Salmans*. **Speaker Summaries,** *Bryan Hooper*. **Caricature,** *Tom Glover*. **Mailing list,** *Art Baron*. **E-communications and This Week at DMA,** *Tom Igoe*. **Webmaster,** *Gary Banks*.

Activity Representatives

For those activities over Zoom, dates and times apply unless otherwise amended. Locations refer to venues when resumption of in-person meetings is possible.

Book Club, Harris Hester, 655.2309 and Tom Igoe, 655.6170
2nd Wednesday, 2 p.m.

Bowling, Tom Lom, 655.0686 and Gehr Brown, 655.3713
Tuesdays, 9 a.m., Nutmeg Lanes, Fairfield

Bridge, Tony Kwedar, 656.0444
Tuesdays, 1 p.m. Online

Current Affairs, Bob Baker, 655.9553
3rd Thursday, 11 a.m.

Golf, Peter Carnes, 655.9518
As announced at meetings and through eblasts

Happy Wanderers, David Mace, 655.7555 and Joe Spain, 655.1264
As announced at meetings and through eblasts

Hiking, Dave McCollum, 853.7080 and Bob Plunkett 246.2898
As announced at meetings and through eblasts

Investment Discussion Group, Jim Phillips, 722.2787
1st Monday, 10 a.m.

Money Matters, Doug Campbell, 975.0320
3rd Wednesday at 10 a.m.

Pickleball, Jan Selkowitz, 655.0441
Tuesdays, Thursdays, Saturdays 9:45 a.m. at Cherry Lawn

Songsters, Joe Holmes, 838.8744
As announced

Woodworking, Tom Williams, 655.7398
Mondays, Tuesdays, 9:30 a.m., Mather Senior Center